

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 08619 101032Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----071462 101036Z /20
O 100958Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4064
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 8619

EXDIS DIST AS NODIS

FOR SAUNDERS FROM LEWIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PINT, PINR, IS, SY, LE
SUBJECT: CONTINUED CHRISTIAN BELLIGERENCE

REF: A) STATE 172872, B) TEL AVIV 8598

1. REF A OBVIOUSLY CROSSED WITH MY REPORT IN REF B ON MY DISCUSSIONS SUNDAY WITH WEIZMAN. IN THOSE DISCUSSIONS I MADE ALL OF POINTS IN YOUR MESSAGE AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER. HOWEVER, IN LIGHT OF LATEST INTELLIGENCE REPORTS ABOUT CHRISTIAN ATTITUDES, WHICH I HAVE SEEN ONLY MONDAY MORNING, I WILL FORCEFULLY GO BACK AT WEIZMAN AGAIN TODAY. HE IS EXPECTING TO HAVE ANOTHER EXCHANGE WITH ME AFTER HE HAS CHECKED FURTHER SITUATION FROM HIS REPORTS.

2. NATURALLY I HAVE NO WAY OF EVALUATING RELIABILITY OF MOST RECENT REPORTS CONCERNING ALLEGED "NIGHTLY MEETINGS ON BOARD ISRAELI SHIPS" OR ALLEGED STATEMENTS BY PHALANGE MILITARY OFFICIALS ABOUT ISRAELI INTENTIONS. WOULD CAUTION ALL READERS OF THESE REPORTS, HOWEVER, TO
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REMEMBER THAT LEBANESE CHRISTIANS ARE CLEARLY TRYING TO CONVINCE US OF EXISTENCE OF AN ISRAELI "BLANK CHECK," AND PERHAPS TO CONVINCE EACH OTHER OF THE SAME. THIS DOES NOT BY ANY MEANS MEAN THAT THE BLANK CHECK EXISTS.
LEWIS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHRISTIANS, ARMED FORCES, REPORTS, INTERVENTION, COMBAT OPERATIONS, MILITARY PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS, MILITARY PLANS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, CA T-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TELAV08619
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P850033-0435
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780777/aaaacner.tel
Line Count: 60
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8d5e6078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, EXDIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 172872, 78 TEL AVIV 8598
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2060522
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONTINUED CHRISTIAN BELLIGERENCE
TAGS: PEPR, MOPS, PINR, IS, SY, US, LE
To: STATE BEIRUT MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8d5e6078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014